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**Sent:** Tue 8/22/2017 6:24:50 PM  
**Subject:** R6 Daily News Digest, Tuesday, Aug. 22

**1 — Millions consumed potentially unsafe water in the past 10 years, Dallas Morning News, 8/20/2017**

<https://www.dallasnews.com/news/environment/2017/08/19/millions-consumed-potentially-unsafe-water-past-10-years>

As many as 63 million people — nearly a fifth of the country — from rural central California to the boroughs of New York City, were exposed to potentially unsafe water more than once during the past decade, according to a News21 investigation of 680,000 water quality and monitoring violations from the Environmental Protection Agency.

**2 — While industry is encouraged by regulation postponements, DEQ fears funding cuts might slow permitting, Business Report, 8/22/2017**

<https://www.businessreport.com/business/industry-encouraged-regulation-postponements-deq-fears-funding-cuts-might-slow-permitting>

The person leading the EPA's Region 6 in Dallas is nearly as important to Louisiana industry and the state's Department of Environmental Quality as the appointment of Scott Pruitt to the agency's top administrative post. After all, that's who they typically deal with on a day-to-day basis.

**3 — Colonias on the border struggle with decades-old water issues, Texas Standard, 8/22/2017**

<https://www.texastribune.org/2017/08/22/colonias-border-struggle-decades-old-water-issues/>

All along the U.S.-Mexico border, about 840,000 mostly low-income, immigrant Latinos have settled in colonias — cheap plots of land outside city limits without basic infrastructure such as water and sewage systems, electricity and paved roads.

**4 — Clean-water advocates: Public health and aesthetics take back seat to political, economic interests, Muskogee Phoenix, 8/22/2017**

[http://www.muskogee phoenix.com/news/clean-water-advocates-public-health-and-aesthetics-take-back-seat/article\\_49cf8428-4358-5edb-930e-adb98fc018cf.html](http://www.muskogee phoenix.com/news/clean-water-advocates-public-health-and-aesthetics-take-back-seat/article_49cf8428-4358-5edb-930e-adb98fc018cf.html)

Fifteen years have passed since Tenkiller Lake and most of the upstream reaches of the Illinois River were placed on the state's list of impaired waters, an event that triggers a federal requirement to set maximum limits on pollutants that cause the impairment. The Clean Water Act requires each state to calculate total maximum daily load for every impaired body of water body once they have been identified. A TMDL determines the maximum levels a water body can receive and still meet reduction targets necessary to remove the impairment.

**5 — Pawhuska parents concerned for kids safety due to gas leak on campus, 8/21/2017**

[http://www.stltoday.com/business/local/farmers-confused-by-monsanto-weedkiller-s-complex-instructions/article\\_8565e99d-c74e-5f8b-8f17-d7312c37329d.html](http://www.stltoday.com/business/local/farmers-confused-by-monsanto-weedkiller-s-complex-instructions/article_8565e99d-c74e-5f8b-8f17-d7312c37329d.html)

Normally bustling school grounds are deserted, with yellow caution tape strung up at various locations, and parents anxieties high strung at a town hall meeting. "It's a band aid on an amputation," said concerned parent, Kathy Castro. The concern, the recent discovery of methane leaking out of the ground and the potential danger and impact on children.

**6— Local chicken plant cleans up act, Palestine Herald, 8/22/17**

[http://www.palestineherald.com/news/local-chicken-plant-cleans-up-act/article\\_78eb2a3a-86f4-11e7-ae44-e346b1d5cca2.html](http://www.palestineherald.com/news/local-chicken-plant-cleans-up-act/article_78eb2a3a-86f4-11e7-ae44-e346b1d5cca2.html)

In an Aug. 2 Herald-Press article, residents living near local chicken coops under contract with Sanderson Farms had some complaints regarding the air quality in their area. "Sometimes the smell is almost particulate," said Ricky Naismith, who lives approximately 2,500 feet west of the farms. "You can almost taste it."

### **7 — Sludge problem for Kensett, Daily Citizen, 8/17/17**

<http://www.thedailycitizen.com/news/news.php?ID=5715>

Kensett has about 200,000 pounds of wastewater sludge that is not breaking down properly, according to the wastewater plant Superintendent Steve Brown. "The cheap way is not working," Brown said last week, and the city has exhausted all economical options to resolve the problem, including hiring an engineer to create a better plan of action.

### **8 — Law firm asks court to force Plaquemines to pay its share of \$45 million BP settlement, Times Picayune, 8/22/17**

[http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2017/08/law\\_firm\\_asks\\_court\\_to\\_force\\_p.html#incart\\_river\\_index](http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2017/08/law_firm_asks_court_to_force_p.html#incart_river_index)

A New Orleans law firm that represented Plaquemines Parish in its \$45 million Deepwater Horizon oil spill damages settlement with BP has gone to federal court to demand its share of the settlement, which it says is \$6.4 million. Plaquemines Parish officials responded with a request that the demand be transferred to a state court in the parish, but on Monday asked the federal judge to delay a hearing on the case indefinitely as both sides discuss a settlement.

### **9 — Green group launches ad against regs reform, The Hill, 8/21/17**

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/347349-green-group-launches-ad-against-regulatory-reform-bills>

An environmental group launched an advertising campaign Monday to oppose a pair of bills meant to make it more difficult for federal agencies to write regulations. Clean Air Moms Action is running the digital video ad in five states with closely watched or competitive Senate races next year: Missouri, Indiana, Montana, Florida and Virginia.

### **10 IG to probe notices of drinking water contamination, Greenwire, 8/21/17**

<https://www.eenews.net/greenwire/2017/08/21/stories/1060058995>

U.S. EPA's internal watchdog is examining whether the agency is alerting the public when drinking water becomes unsafe. In a notice dated Friday, the EPA inspector general said it would start research on "the public notification of drinking water quality." Under the Safe Drinking Water Act, EPA is required to notify the public when drinking water systems are contaminated.